## **BakerHostetler**

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September 15, 2017

## VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Accelerating Wireline Broadband Deployment (WC Docket No. 17-84);

Notice of Ex Parte Presentation

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Re:

On September 14, 2017, Scott Patrick and the undersigned of Baker & Hostetler, LLP, counsel for the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak), met with Dr. Jay Schwarz, Wireline Legal Advisor to Chairman Ajit Pai, and met separately with Claude Aiken, Wireline Legal Advisor to Commissioner Mignon Clyburn. Joining us in these meetings were Vincent Brotski, Amtrak Senior Associate General Counsel; Cindy Durst, Amtrak Director, Real Estate, Northeast Corridor Infrastructure; and David Flinkstrom, Amtrak Consultant, Senior Communications Engineer.

Amtrak discussed with Dr. Schwarz and Mr. Aiken why establishing any pole attachment information collection or disclosure requirements for railroads would be both inappropriate and counterproductive. Consistent with the attached presentation, Amtrak explained that such requirements would not advance the Commission's broadband deployment goals because railroads have an insignificant role in the last-mile distribution of broadband services over public rights-of-way (ROW). Amtrak observed that imposing such obligations on railroads would instead impair free market negotiations for use of the limited railroad ROW that is available for third-party communications purposes, and would inflict unnecessary and significant costs and burdens on railroads.

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This notice is filed pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules. Kindly contact me if any questions arise regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

Gary S. Lutzker Counsel to Amtrak

Attachment

cc (via e-mail): Dr. Jay Schwarz

Mr. Claude Aiken